

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 VO-03 SY-05 /022 W

----- 124725

R 131300Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5941

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, CGEN, P

SUBJECT: CONSULAR CONFERENCE IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 170008

1. GARY V. PRICE, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICER, IS DESIGNATED TO REPRESENT POST AT CONSULAR CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI.

2. VERY LOW VOLUME OF CONSULAR WORK AT POST HAS CREATED FEW PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, TWO PERSISTENT PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN SECURING VISAS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR AMCITS AND NECESSITY OF SECOND PASSPORTS FOR THOSE AMCITS TRAVELING TO OTHER PARTS OF AFRICA.

3. ACCESS TO RSA IS A MUST TO ENTER OR EXIT THIS ENCLAVE COUNTRY HOWEVER, SAG VISA DISCRIMINATION IN PAST HAS LIMITED OR DENIED ENTRY TO AMCITS IN PEACE CORPS, UN, OR MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS. AT PRESENT SAG HAS ELIMINATED MOST DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES AFTER USG PRESSURE. WAITING PERIOD OF 5 TO 8 WEEKS FOR ISSUANCE IS STILL COMMON AND SOURCE OF MUCH INCONVENIENCE.

4. STRANGELY ENOUGH, PRESENCE OF SAG VISAS IN U.S. PASSPORTS IS CAUSE OF SECOND PASSPORT PROBLEM. AMCITS, WHO IN COURSE OF BUSINESS OR OTHER

TRAVEL, MUST VISIT BLACK RULED COUNTRIES, HAVE BEEN HARRASSED OR DENIED ENTRY DUE TO PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN VISAS IN THEIR PASSPORT
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TO FORESTALL PROBLEMS, AMCITS HAVE APPLIED FOR SECOND PASSPORTS WHICH ARE DEVOID OF SAG VISAS. HOWEVER, TO EXIT LESOTHO, THEY ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE PASSPORT WITH SAG VISA, AFTER DEPARTURE FROM RSA SWITCH TO CLEAN PASSPORT. THIS REQUIREMENT NEGATES PROCEDURE TO HOLD ONE PASSPORT AT EMBASSY WHILE OTHER IN USE.
PRICE

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Message Attributes

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